

**WEAKLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE  
FINANCE, WAYS, AND MEANS COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, June 12, 2018 – 9:00 a.m. – Conference Room, Department of Finance**

**Finance, Ways, and Means Committee Members Present:** Commissioners Eric Owen, Greg Usery, Dennis Doster, Larry Taylor, James H. Westbrook, Jr., Roger Donaldson, Earl Wright, Tommy Jones, and David Hawks

**Finance, Ways, and Means Committee Members Absent:** None

The Weakley County Finance, Ways and Means Committee met on Tuesday, June 12, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. in the conference room at the Board of Education and Department of Finance in Dresden. Others present included County Mayor Jake Bynum, Finance Director John Liggett, Elections Administrator Alex Britt, Director of Schools Randy Frazier, Dispatch Director Christy Fulcher, Roads Supervisor Charles Ross, Youth Services Director Keith Jones, General Sessions Judge Tommy Moore, School Board Member Ali Stalter, County Commissioners Donald Doster and Gary Eddings, and three representatives of the media.

Chairperson Owen called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Commissioner Jones made the motion to approve the minutes from the Joint Health, Education and Economic Development Committee and Finance, Ways, and Means [FWM] Committee meeting held April 26, 2018, as well as the FWM committee meeting minutes from May 9, 2018, and with a second by Commissioner Doster, the motion to approve passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Discussion of Resolution No. 2018-04 – Resolution in Support of New Building for the Carl Perkins Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse and to Provide Financial Support for the Project**

Chairperson Owen recognized Mayor Bynum who said the county commission had originally approved this resolution in July of 2017 to allocate funding to provide financial assistance for a new building for the Carl Perkins Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse located in Martin. He explained that the construction of the facility was contingent upon grant funding which the center did not receive, but stated that the organization was donated a building. Mayor Bynum explained that the funds had already been budgeted and pointed out that the resolution did not specify that the funds would be used toward a new construction, and then said that the Carl Perkins Center has asked that we honor Resolution 2018-04 that obligated funds for the center. Discussion was had that the City of Martin and the City of Union City were both going to allocate funds for the center, but Obion County is not at present. There was some conversation about private source fundraising and some concerns from the commissioners that the allocation was contingent upon the grant. Mayor Bynum recommended that if the body decides not to allocate funding for the center, Resolution 2018-04 should be rescinded.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**DISCUSSION OF BUDGETS**

**FUND 116 – SOLID WASTE BUDGET**

Chairperson Owen recognized Commissioner Hawks who asked about the surcharge fee and expenditures related to waste tire disposal. Commissioner Hawks asked where in the budget surcharge fees were housed, and Mayor Bynum explained that those fees go into the Solid Waste Reserve Account, which can only be used for waste tire disposal. Commissioner Hawks expressed concern that the county cannot make a profit on waste tire disposal fees and risk

violating statute. Mayor Bynum said that it was in no way a violation of statute, and that the account funds would and could only be used for the disposal of waste tires when a necessary expense is identified, and he cited a hypothetical example of discovering a large dumpsite of waste tires and using reserve funds for the disposal of those tires.

Having no other questions or discussion, Commissioner Usery made the motion to tentatively approve the Solid Waste Budget Fund 116 and recommend it for approval from the full county commission, and with a second by Commissioner Hawks, the motion passed unanimously.

### **FUND 131 – HIGHWAY FUND BUDGET**

Chairperson Owen stated some existing and new tax rate figures. Chairperson Owen recognized Roads Supervisor Ross, who talked about the changes to his 2018-19 FY budget:

62000 – [Highway and Bridge Maintenance] 143 [Equipment Operators] and 147 [Truck Drivers] – Mentioned an increase, budgeted year-round mowers.

62000 – [Highway and Bridge Maintenance] 405 [Asphalt – Liquid] – Increase due to rising costs on RS2.

62000 – [Highway and Bridge Maintenance] 409 [Crushed Stone] – Increase mostly due to rising costs of freight.

62000 – [Highway and Bridge Maintenance] 438 [Pipe] – Increase, stated that bids were up 5%.

63100 – [Operation & Maintenance of Equipment] 336 [Maintenance and Repair of Equipment] – Mentioned an increase and stated that while the highway department team had much cost savings by repairing equipment in-house, some things simply cannot be repaired without outside expertise.

63100 – [Operation & Maintenance of Equipment] 412 [Diesel Fuel] – Increase due to volatile price market.

63100 – [Operation & Maintenance of Equipment] 418 [Equipment and Machinery Parts] – Increase relative to increase in 412 line.

68000 – [Capital Outlay] 706 [Building Construction] – Supervisor Ross said that it was with displeasure that he present the various issues that the Highway Department building is experiencing. He said that the building was 42 years old and had for some years been experiencing a variety of issues, including problems with plumbing, sewer, limited space for meeting and shop space areas, accessibility, and more. Supervisor Ross offered that, though not in his wheelhouse, he would manage the improvements to the building if necessary. He also mentioned a replacement of a grater and dump truck. There was some discussion amongst the committee members about the best course of action to take on problems and improvements to the Highway Department building, and some committee members commented that they thought it might be best to construct an entirely new facility. Commissioner Larry Taylor suggested that the county consider issuing a capital outlay note for new building construction, and conversation continued.

Supervisor Ross informed the committee that no hot mix was figured into the budget for the 2018-19 FY, and spoke about the differences in road surfacing materials, stated several figures, and provided a rough estimate breakdown that quoted hot mix road repair at around \$100,000 per mile.

Commissioner Westbrook mentioned that there seemed to be an inconsistency between the revenue and expenditures relative to the state aid program and the addition of 2%. Finance Director Liggett said that he'd check on it.

Having no other questions or discussion, Commissioner Westbrook made the motion to tentatively approve the Highway Fund Budget 131 and recommend it for approval from the full county commission, and with a second by Commissioner Jones, the motion passed unanimously.

**Resolution No. 2018-42: Resolution Granting an Exclusive Franchise for the Operation of Ambulance Service Within the Boundaries of Weakley County, Tennessee**

Chairperson Owen recognized Mayor Bynum who noted some changes to the franchise agreement, including changes to Section 4 to include the fifth ambulance as proposed by Weakley County Ambulance Service, changes to Section 7 to remove language permit entities to request additional subsidy funds, and changes to Section 11 to include a three year franchise agreement rather than ten.

Discussion began about the various proposals that were submitted to the county, the subsidy, and the services of the surrounding counties. Commissioner Donaldson stated that West TN Healthcare was making a huge investment in Weakley County by purchasing the hospital, spoke about the proposal they submitted, talked about expenditures that the county is considering, including school resource officers and the Carl Perkins Center, and mentioned the cost savings of no subsidy for ambulance services for the county. There was some talk about costs of autopsies and prisoner transport. Commissioner Hawks agreed with Commissioner Donaldson and said that from his research of other counties with Medical Services EMS, they would provide additional ambulances should the need for them arise.

Chairperson Owen called for a roll call vote, and Resolution 2018-42 failed with a vote of 3 yeas and 6 nays.

After some discussion, Chairperson Owen made a motion to reconsider Resolution No. 2018-42, and with a second by Commissioner Hawks, the motion to reconsider Resolution 2018-42 passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hawks made a motion to amend the resolution to remove the \$300,000 subsidy from the resolution, and with a second by Commissioner Donaldson, the motion passed with 6 yeas and 3 nays.

Commissioner Usery made a motion to approve the resolution as amended and recommend it to the full county commission, and with a second by Commissioner Doster, the motion passed unanimously.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Having no other business, Commissioner Usery made the motion to adjourn and with a second by Commissioner Jones, the meeting was adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Erica Moore, Secretary

Finance, Ways, and Means Committee

Approved:



Eric Owen, Chairperson

Finance, Ways, and Means Committee

Date: 6-26-18